

DECLARATION OF The Lords and Commons IN PARLIAMENT.

With the Additionall Reasons, last presented to His MAJESTIE.

Sabbathi 12. Martij. 1641.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled,
That the Declaration, with the Additionall Reasons last presented to his Majesty, shall be forthwith Printed and published.

Io. Browne, Cleric. Parl.

H. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

Whereunto is annexed His Majesties Speech to the Committee, the 9. of *March*, 1641. when they presented the Declaration of both Houses of Parliament at
New-market.

LONDON,
Printed for John Thomas, 1641.

The Declaration.

May it please your Majesty ;



Although the Expressions in your Majesties Message of the second of this instant March, doe give just cause of sorrow to us your faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament, yet it is not without some mixture of confidence and hope, considering they proceeded from the mis-apprehension of our Actions and Intentions, which having no ground of Truth or Reality, may by your Majesties Justice and Wisdome be removed when your Majesty shall be fully informed, that those fears and jealousies of ours, which your Majesty thinks to be causelesse, and without any just ground, do necessarily and clearly arise from those dangers and distempers, into which the mischievous and evill Counsels about you have brought this Kingdom. And that those other feares and jealousies, by which your favour, your Royall Presence, and confidence have been withdrawn from your Parliament, have no foundation or substance in any action, intencion or miscarriage of ours, but are meerly grounded upon the falshood and malice of those, who for the supporting and fomenting their own wicked designs, against the Religion and Peace of the Kingdome, doe seek to deprive your Majesty of the Strength and Affection of your People, them of your Grace and Protection, and thereby to subject both your Royall Person, and the whole Kingdome to ruine and destruction.

To satisfie your Majesties judgement and Conscience in both these points, we desire to make a cleare and free Declaration of the causes of our feares and jealousies, which we offer to your Majesty, in these particulars :

1. That the design of altering Religion in this, and in your other Kingdomes, hath beene potently carried on by those in greatest Authority about you for divers yeeres together, the Queens Agent at Rome, and the Popes Agent or Nuncio here, are not onely evidences of this designe, but have beene great Actors in it.

2. That the War with Scotland was procured to make way for this intent, and chiefly invited and fomented by the Papists, and others Popishly affected, whereof we have many evidences, especially their free and generall contribution to it.

3. That the Rebellion in Ireland was framed and contrived here in England, and that the English Papists should have risen about the same time, we have severall testimonies, and advertisements from Ireland, and that it

ces and obliervations of the suspitions, meetings, and consultations, the tumultuary and seditious carriage of those of that Religion in divers parts of this Kingdome, about the time of the breaking out of the Irish Rebellion; The deposition of *O Connelly*, the Information of *Mr. Cole* Minister, the Letter of *Trestram Whitcombe*, the deposition of *Thomas Crant*, and many others which we may produce, doe all agree in this. The publike Declaration of the Lords, Gentlemen, and others of the Pale, that they would joyne with the Rebels, whom they call the Irish Army, or any other, to recover unto his Majesty his Royall Prerogative, wrested from him by the *Parliament* faction in the Houses of *Parliament* in *England*, and to maintaine Episcopall Jurisdiction, and the lawfulness thereof; these two being the Quarrels, upon which his Majesties late Army in the North should have beene incenst against us.

The great cause we have to doubt that that late design stiled, *The Queens pious intention*, was for the alteration of Religion in this Kingdome, for success whereof, the *Popes Nuncio*, the Count *Rosetti* injoynd Fastings & Praying to be observed every Week by the *English Papists*, which appeared to us by one of the Originall Letters directed by him to a Priest in *Lancashire*.

The boldnesse of the *Irish Rebels*, in affirming they doe nothing, but by Authority from the King; That they call themselves the *Queens Army*: That the prey or booty which they take from the *English*, they mark with the *Queens Mark*: That their purpose was to come to *England*, after they had done in *Ireland*, and sundry other things of this kind, proved by *O Connelly*, and divers others, especially in the fore-mentioned Letter from *Trestram Whitecombe*, the Major of *Kinsale*, to his Brother *Benjamin Whitecombe*, wherein there is this passage, That many other strange speeches they utter about Religion, & our Court of *England*, which he dares not commit to paper. The manifold attempts to provoke your Majesties late Army, and the Army of the *Scots*, and to raise a faction in the City of *London*, and other parts of the Kingdom: That those who have been Actors in these businesses, have had their dependance, their countenance, and encouragement from the Court; Witnesse the Treason whereof Master *Iermyn* and others stand accused, who was transported beyond Sea by Warrant, under your Majesties Hand, after your Majesty had given Assurance to your Parliament, that your Majesty had layd a strict command upon all your Servants, that none of them should depart from Court; And that dangerous *Petition*, delivered to Capt. *Legg* by your Majesties own Hand, accompanied with a Direction Signed with C.R.

The false and scandalous Accusation against the Lord *Kimbolton*, and the 5. Members of the House of Commons, referred to the *Parliament* by your Majesties own Command, endeavoured to be justified in the City by your
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own preſence and perſwaſion, and to put in execution upon their perſons, by your Maſtities demand of them in the Houſe of Commons, in ſo terrible and violent a manner, as farre exceeded all former breaches of Priviledges of Parliament, acted by your Maſteſty, or any of your Predeceſſors : And whatſoever your own intentions were, divers bloody and desperate perſons which attended your Maſteſty, diſcovered their affections and reſolutions to have Maſſacred and deſtroyed the Members of that Houſe, if the abſence of thoſe perſons accuſed had not, by Gods providence, ſtopt the giving of that word which they expected, for the ſetting them upon that barbarous and bloody Act : The Liſting of ſo many Officers, Souldiers, and others, putting them into pay, and under command of Colonels, ſeaſting & carreſſing them in an unuſuall manner at *White-hall*; thereby maintaining them in the violent aſſaults, and other injuries which they offered to divers of your Subjects, coming that way in a lawfull and peaceable manner; the carrying them out of Towne, after which they were told by the Lord *Digbie* ; That the King removed on purpoſe, that they might not be trampled in the dirt : And keeping them ſo long in pay, endeavouring to ingage the Gentlemen of the Innes of Court, in the ſame courſe : The plotting and deſigning of a perpetuall Guard about your Maſteſty : The labouring to infuſe into your Maſtities Subjects an evill opinion of the Parliament, thorow the whole Kingdome, and other Symptomes of a diſpoſition of rayſing Arms, and dividing your people by a Civill Warre; in which combustion, *Ireland* muſt needs be loſt, and this Kingdome miſerably waſted and conſumed, if not wholly ruined and deſtroyed.

That after a Vote had paſſed in the Houſe of Commons, declaring. That the Lord *Digby* had appeared in a warlike manner at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*, to the terror and fright of your Maſtities good Subjects, and diſturbance of the publike peace of the Kingdome; and that therefore the Lords ſhould be moved to require his attendance, he ſhould, nevertheleſſe, be of that credit with your Maſteſty, as to be ſent away by your own Warrant to Sir *John Pennington*, to Land him beyond the Sea; from whence he vented his own Trayterous conceptions; That your Maſteſty ſhould declare your ſelfe, and retire to a place of ſtrength in this Kingdome, as if your Maſteſty could not be ſafe among your people: And withall tooke that tranſcendent boldneſſe to write to the Queen; offering to entertaine correſpondency with her Maſteſty by Cyphers, intimating ſome ſervice which he might doe in thoſe Parts; for which, he deſired your Maſtities inſtructions : whereby in probability, he intended the procuring of ſome forraign force to ſtrengthen your Maſteſty, in that condition into which he would have brought you, Which falſe and malicious counſell & advice, we have great cauſe to doubt:
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are pleased to take, of absenting your selfe from your Parliament, and carrying the Prince with you, which seems to expresse a purpose in your Majesty, to keep your selfe in a readinesse for the acting of it.

The manifold Advertisements which we have had from *Rome, Venice, Paris*, and other parts, that they still expect that your Majesty has some great designe in hand, for the altering of Religion, the breaking the neck of your *Parliament*: That you will yet find meanes, to compass that designe, that the Popes *Nuncio* hath solicited the Kings of *France* and *Spaine* to lend your Majesty foure thousand men apiece to helpe to maintain your Royaltie against the *Parliament*: And this forraign force as it is the most pernicious and malignant designe of all the rest, so we hope it is and shall alwayes be farthest from your Majesties thoughts, because no man can believe you will give vp your people and Kingdome to be spoyled by strangers, if you did not likewise intend to change both your owne profession in Religion, and the publique profession of the Kingdome, that so you might still be more assured of those forraign States of the Popish Religion for your future suport and defence.

These are some of the grounds of our feares and Jealousies, which made us so earnestly to implore your Royall Authority, and protection, for our defence and security, in all the wayes of Humilitie and submission, which being denied by your Majesty seduced by evill Counsell, we doe with sorrow for the great and invoydable miserie and danger, which thereby is like to fall upon your owne person, and your Kingdomes, apply our selves to the use of that power for the securitie and defence of both, which by the fundamentall Lawes and Constitution of this Kingdome resides in us, yet still resolving to keepe our selves within the bounds of faithfulnessse and allegiance to your sacred Person and your Crowne, so as to the second sort of Jealousies and feares of us, exprest by your Majesty, we shall give a shorter, but as true, and as faithfull an Answer.

Whereas Your Majesty is pleased to say that for your residence neere the Parliament, you wish it might be safe and honourable, that you had no cause to absent your selfe from *White-hall*; This we take as the greatest breach of the priviledge of Parliament that can be offered; As the heaviest misery to your selfe, and imputation upon us that can be imagined, and the most mischievous effect of evill Councells, it roots up the strongest foundation of the safety and honour which your Crowne affords; It seems as much as may be, to cast upon the Parliament, such a charge, as is inconsistent with the nature of that great Councell, being the body whereof your Majesty is the head, it strikes at the very being, both of King, and Parlia-

them of your protection, which are the mutuall bands and supporters of Government and Subjection.

We have according to your Majesties desire, laid our hands upon our hearts, we have askt our selves in the strictest examination of our Consciences; we have seacht our affections, our thoughts, considered our Actions, and wee find none that can give your Majesty any just occasion to absent your selfe from *White-Hall*, and the Parliament; but that you may with more honour and safety, continue there then in any other place.

Your Majesty layes a generall taxe upon us; If you will be gratioously pleased to let us know the particulars, wee shall give a cleere and satisfactory Answer: But what hope can we have of ever giving your Majesty satisfaction, when those particulars which you have been made beleieve were true, yet being produced and made known to us, appeared to be false; and your Majesty notwithstanding, will neither punish, nor produce the Authors, but goe on to contract new Jealousies and feares, upon generall and uncertaine grounds, affording us no means or possibility of particular Answer, to the clearing of our selves; For prooffe whereof, wee beseech your Majesty to consider these Instances.

The Speeches alleadged to be spoken in a meeting of divers Members of both Houses at *Kenington*, concerning a purpose of restraining the Queen and Prince, which after it was denied, and disavowed, yet your Majesty refused to name the Authors, though humbly desired by both Houses.

The report of Articles framed against the Queens Majesty, given out by some of neere relation to the Court; but when it was publikely, and constantly disclaimed, the credit seemed to be withdrawn from it; but the Authors being kept safe, will alwayes be ready for exploits of the same kind, wherwith your Majesty, and the Queen will be often troubled, if this course be taken to cherish and secure them in such wicked and malicious slanders.

The heavy charge and accusation of the Lord *Kimbolton*, and the five Members of the House of Commons who refused no tryall or examination, which might stand with the Priviledge of Parliament; yet no Authors, no witnesses produced against whom they may have reparation for the great injury and infamy cast upon them; notwithstanding three severall Petitions of both Houses, and the authority of two Acts of Parliament, vouched in the last of those Petitions.

We beseech your Majesty to consider in what State you are, how easie, and faire a way you have to happinesse, honour greatnesse, plenty, and security; if you will joynes with the Parliament, and your faithfull Subjects in defence of the Religion and publike good of the Kingdome: This is all

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we expect from you, and for this we shall returne to you, our Lives, fortunes, and uttermost endeavours to support your Majesty, your just Sovereignty and power ouer us, but it is not words that can secure us in these our humble desires; we cannot but too well, and sorrowfully remember what gracious Messages we had from you this Summer, when with your privity, the bringing up the Army was in agitation; we cannot but with the like affections recall to our minds, how not two dayes before you gave directions for the above-mentioned accusation, and your own coming to the Commons House, that House received from your Majesty a gracious Message, that you would alwayes have care of their Priviledges, as of your own Prerogative, of the safety of their persons, as of your own Children: that which we expect, which will give us assurance, that you have no thought but of peace and justice to your People, must be some reall effect of your goodnesse to them in granting those things, which the present necessity of the Kingdome, do inforce us to desire: And in the first place, that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to put from you, those wicked and mischievous Counsellors, which have caused all these dangers & distractions, and to continue your owne Residence, and the Princes neere London, and the Parliament, which we hope will be a happy beginning of contentment, & confidence betwixt your Majesty, and your People, and be followed with many succeeding blessings of Honour and Greatnesse to your Majesty, and of security and prosperity to them.

The Additionall Reasons.

THE Lords and Commons have commanded us to present unto your Majesty this further Addition to their former Declaration.

That your Majesties return, and continuance neere the Parliament, is a matter in their apprehension of so great necessity and importance towards the preservation of your Royall Person and your Kingdomes, that they cannot thinke they have discharged their duties in the single expression of their desire, unless they adde some further Reasons to back it with.

I. Your Majesties absence will cause men to beleerve, that it is out of designe to discourage the undertakers, and hinder the other Provisions for raising Money for defence of Ireland.

II. It will very much hearten the Rebels there, and disaffected persons in this Kingdome as being an evidence, and effect of the Jealousie and division betwixt your Majesty, and your people.

III. That it will much weaken and withdraw the affection of the Subject from your Majesty, without which a Prince is deprived of his chiefest strength and lustre, and left naked to the greatest dangers and miseries, that can be imagined.

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V. That it causeth a great interruption in the proceedings of Parliament.

These Considerations threaten so great danger to your Majesties Person, and to all your Dominions, that as your Majesties great Councill, they hold it necessary to represent to You, this their faithfull Advise, that so whatsoever followeth, they may be excused before God and Man.

His Majesties Speech to the Committee, the 9. of March, at New-market.

I Am confident that you expect not I should give you a speedy Answer to this strange and unexpected Declaration. And I am sorry (in the distraction of this Kingdome) you should thinke this way of addresse to be more convenient, then that proposed by my Message of the 20. of January last to both Houses.

As concerning the grounds of your Fears and Jealousies, I will take time to answer particularly, and doubt not but I shall doe it to the satisfaction of all the world. God, in his good time, will I hope discover the secrets and bottomes of all plots and Treasons; and then I shall stand right in the eyes of all my people. In the mean time, I must tell you, That I rather expected a Vindication for the imputation layd on me in *Mr. Pym's* Speech, then that any more generall Rumors and Discourses should get credit with you.

For my fears and doubts, I did not thinke they should have bin thought so groundlesse or triviall, while so many seditious pamphlets & Sermons are looked upon, and so great Tumults are remembered unpunished, uninquired into: I still confesse my fears, & call God to witnesse, That they are greater for the true Protestant profession my people & Lawes, then for my own Rights or Safety: though I must tell you, I conceive that none of these are free from danger.

What would you have? Have I violated your Lawes? Have I denied to passe any one Bill for the ease and security of my Subjects? I doe not aske you what you have done for me.

Have any of my people been transported with fears and Apprehensions? I have offered as free and generall a pardon, as your selves can devise. All this considered, There is a judgement from Heaven, upon this Nation, if these distractions continue.

God so deale with me and mine, as all my thoughts and intentions are upright for the maintenance of the true protestant profession and for the Observation and preservation of the Lawes of this Land, And, I hope, God will blesse and assist those Lawes for my preservation.

As for the Additionall Declaration you are to expect an Answer to it, wh... you shall receive the Answer to the Declaration in selfe.

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